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OF RELIGION

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Laymen's Schools

The programs for the two Schools of Churchmanship for laymen are rapidly taking form. The first one will be held at the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Sunday, February 16. The second will be at the YMCA in Sacramento on Sunday, March 2. Mr. George B. Martin, chairman of the Laymen's Fellowship Commission, will preside on both occasions.

The two schools will follow very similar patterns. The morning session will open about 9:45, all of the men meeting together and listening to three addresses, one by Field Secretary Sherman on "Our program for young people," another by Superintendent Gill on "Who are these Congregationalists?", and the third by Galen Fisher on "Religious Isolationism vs. World Christianity." The program committee counts itself very fortunate in securing Mr. Fisher, who directed the Laymen's Inquiry into the program of foreign missions some years ago. Mr. Fisher was for many years in Japan and later connected with the Institute of Social and Religious Research. He is now trustee of the Institute of Pacific Relations, and saw at first hand conditions in Japan during this past summer.

In the afternoon there will be discussion groups, at Berkeley one for trustees, one for deacons, one for religious education workers, and one for young people's leaders. Thus far acceptances have been received from Mr. Peirce Coombes of Redwood City, Rev. Vere V. Loper of Berkeley, Rev. C. L. Duncan, and Rev. G. Arthur Casaday, as speakers of these groups. At Sacramento there will be three groups instead of four. On both days there will be a joint session with summaries from the various groups and then a closing address. The one at Berkeley will be given by Rev. Charles E. Ward of Redwood City, and the one at Sacramento by Rev. T. Torrance Phelps. Detailed program will appear in the February Pacific.

STANFORD CONFERENCE

Stanford University is announcing a Conference on Spiritual Leadership planned by Professor D. Elton Trueblood, Chaplain. It will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, January 21, 22, and 23. The evening speaker on each day will be Dr. Rufus M. Jones, famous Quaker mystic and writer. Among others who will be heard will be Bishop Karl M. Block, Bishop Edward Lambe Parsons, Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, Dr. William Adams Brown, Dr. Lynn T. White, President Arthur C. McGiffert, Bishop Edwin Holt Hughes, Dr. John C. Bennett, Dr. Adolph Keller, and Rabbi Irving F. Reichert. The conference is a part of the celebration of Stanford's 50th anniversary. The headquarters will be in the Memorial Chapel. No fee will be charged, but all who attend are asked to register. Those who desire housing in Palo Alto homes should write at once to the Secretary, Memorial Church, Stanford University, giving denominational affiliation.

P.S.R. LECTURES

Pacific School of Religion is announcing a series of lectures by Dr. Fritz Kunkel on "Counselling in the Ministry." The fee will be $1.00 for the series, or 25 cents for each lecture. There will be six in the series, and the dates will be January 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, and 17; the hours from 7 to 9 P. M.

ROLAND HAYES

Congregationalists of the Bay area will have unusual opportunities to hear the great Negro tenor, Roland Hayes. It is particularly fitting that this great artist should appear in our churches because of the interest which Congregationalists have had for a full century in educational work among Negro people. Plymouth Church is sponsoring a concert on January 17, for which tickets can be secured at the office of the church. Mr. Hayes will give two concerts in the City Temple in San Francisco, one on Sunday afternoon, January 19, and the other Monday evening, January 20. Patrons' tickets are available at the church.

"From barefoot boy, guiding a bullock-drawn plough on the Georgia farm of his widowed, slave-born mother, Hayes toiled his way to the heights of world-wide musical fame to receive universal critical acknowledgement as America's greatest native-born concert tenor of this era. Working his way through Fisk University (which later made him a Doctor of Music), singing with her 'Jubilee Singers,' studying for years in Boston and abroad under great teachers, acclaimed in all the great music centers of Europe, giving command performances before royalty, soloist with the greatest orchestras of Europe and America, awarded the Spingarn medal for the 'Most outstanding achievement among colored people,' Roland Hayes is now at the zenith of his powers."

BAY ASS'N ANNUAL

The annual meeting of the Bay Association of Congregational Churches of Northern California will be held on Tuesday, February 4, at the City Temple, San Francisco.

There will be a business session beginning at 4:30 in the afternoon, with reports for the year and election of officers. Dinner will be served, at 50c per plate, the regular attendance at the midweek dinner of the City Temple joining. The program that will follow the dinner will be a presentation by the faculty and students of the Pacific School of Religion, with President A. C. McGiffert, Jr., as master of ceremonies.

All minister members of the Association are expected to be in attendance, and the churches may be represented by as many as will come, but voting is restricted in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws.

HONORED!

Superintendent Edward D. Gaylord of the Southern California Conference retired from his official position on December 31, and becomes the executive director of Pilgrim Place at Claremont.

For ten years he has served the Southern Conference and has endeared himself to ministers and laymen throughout our fellowship. The period of his leadership was the period of depression and deflation, and to hold the Conference together and to maintain and increase its strength was a notable achievement. No other superintendent in our fellowship ever looked after his field and his churches more faithfully.

He was president of the Superintendents' Council of our denomination. His acquaintance with ministers and his knowledge of conditions within the churches will enable him to be an ideal director for Pilgrim Place. An appreciation dinner was tendered to Dr. and Mrs. Gaylord at the Chapman Park Hotel on December 3.

Northern California Congregationalists will hope to see Dr. Gaylord regularly at state Conference meetings in the future as we have in the past.

135 Y. P. ATTENDED

The Mid-winter Pilgrim Fellowship Conference has come and gone. Sacramento Pioneer Church furnished excellent facilities and provided hospitality. In spite of the influenza epidemic raging throughout the State, and in spite of storms and floods, 118 full-time delegates were present and 17 part-time, a total of 135. The theme of the Conference centered about World Brotherhood. Rev. G. Arthur Casaday was the chaplain, conducting five brief devotional services. Rev. Allan Hunter of Los Angeles gave a series of addresses on the theme of the Conference, and Professor John C. Bennett of Pacific School made two. Both of these speakers answered questions. Others who made addresses were Rev. T. T. Phelps, Rev. B. E. Childress, and Rev. T. Tanabe of Sacramento, and Superintendent Gill. Field Secretary Sherman took care of the business details, and Rev. R. C. M. Fiske of Oakland was the Director. A number of pastors and young people served as resource leaders and discussion chairmen. Miss Jackie Ong, student of the College of the Pacific, was in charge of recreation.

STOP! THINK! ACT!

While we rejoice in the blessings we have in the United States and thank God for our good fortune that has enabled us to escape the horrors of war and the devastation that has been the experience of other nations, we are nonetheless mindful of the forces within our shores that constitute a threat to our national life. These factors represent the challenge that the church must face realistically. They may be summed up as follows:

"85,000,000, or 63% of our population without the Church.
"30,000,000 children and youth without religious training.
"30,00,000 foreign born, parents and their families, representing 45 nationalities.
"96 metropolitan centers have 45% of our population, with the evils of city life, and in many of them only one out of seven are members of a church.
"The active criminal population is four and one-half million which is three and one-half times as many as are enrolled in our colleges and universities; the annual crime bill is $15,000,000,000, $120 for every man, woman and child.
"The national liquor bill last year was $5,000,000,000, a little short of 50% of the country's food bill. We spent $15.33 per capita for education, and $38.60 per capita for liquor."

These facts suggest something of the task that confronts the church in general. They also have potent meaning for the home mission agencies, and they have significance for foreign missions, for only in proportion as America becomes genuinely Christian, shall we be able to help evangelize the world.

(Excerpts from annual report of Rev. Mark A. Dawber, Secretary of the Home Missions Council.)

HUGE SUCCESS

National Christian Mission a huge success in Eastern cities! Reports emanating from the East stress the phenomenal success of the National Christian Mission as it sweeps from city to city. One of the deepest moved, Chicago, reports: "To this city there has come and gone the National Christian Mission. But from this city there will never leave the mark of its having been here. That impression upon the lives of modern city dwellers, that mark upon the soul of Chicago's Christian folk, is deep and lasting for many reasons."

Many testimonials of its success from people in all walks of life bear eloquent testimonials of its great outreach and contribution to Christian living in such a time as ours.

March 9 and 16 will find the Mission in the San Francisco Bay District. Great Mass Meetings in San Francisco and Oakland; Seminars; Bible Study Forums; Great Youth Conference over the week-end; Speakers in high schools, service clubs; Special luncheons and dinners for church workers; special meetings for Clergy.

Among the speakers who will come are: Earl F. Adams, New York; James R. Branton, Eugene; Cameron P. Hall, Philadelphia; Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Dallas; E. Stanley Jones, India; Muriel Lester, London; John B. Magee, Mt. Vernon, Iowa; Judge E. J. Millington; Edgar Moorman, Quincy, Ilinois; Fredcrick Norwood, Vancouver; Bishop Charles Selectman, Oklahoma; W. O. Trueblood, Indianapolis; Bishop Bruce R. Baxter, Oregon; Bishop Ralph Cushman, St. Paul, Minn.; Elmer Homrighausen, Princeton, N. J.; Edward Hume, New York; Phillip Lee, Chicago; Henry Smith Leiper, New York; Reinhold Niebuhr, New York; Albert W. Palmer, Chicago; Francis Stifler, New York; Worth M. Tippy, New York; Frank B. Fagerburg, Los Angeles; Marshall Steel, Dallas.

The local Finance Committee, Dr. John E. Gurley, Chairman, is circulating Sponsor-Registration Tickets to sell at 50c each to undergird the work of the Mission. This will be the only appeal for funds. The cooperation of all churches is earnestly solicited.

MIDWINTER MEETINGS

The Midwinter Meetings will again be held at Chicago and Evanston. The superintendents will gather in Chicago on January 22; the women's state presidents will meet on the 26th. The Missions Council, the Board of Home Missions, and the Prudential Committee of the American Board will open their sessions on the 27th. It is expected that Northern California will be represented by Mrs. R. A. Fuller, president of the Federation of Congregational Women; Professor C. A. Kofoid, member of the Prudential Committee of the A.B.C.F.M.; Rev. Stephen C. Peabody, substitute for Prof. John C. Bennett of the Council for Social Action; and Superintendent Gill.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 16-17: Annual Meeting of Federation of Congregational Women, North Church, Berkeley.
February 4: Annual Meeting, Bay Association, City Temple, San Francisco.
March 9-16: Christian Mission in Bay area.
April 13: Easter.
October 17-19: Annual Meeting, Northern California Congregational Conference, Stockton.

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REV. G. SOUTHWELL BRETT

Rev. G. Southwell Brett passed away at his home at Campbell on December 28. He was born in London, England, 79 years ago last September, and came to the United States at the age of 21. After graduation from Oberlin, he was ordained in 1894. He was pastor in Springfield, Mo., Waukesha, Wisc., and DeSoto, Mo., where he was married to Winifred Grainger in 1899. There followed pastorates at Lorraine and Lucas, Ohio, and then four years in Melbourne, Australia. In 1911 he returned to the United States where he served churches at Winslow and Sunnyside, Washington; Ashland, Oregon; Rio Vista, Antioch, and Guerneville, California. He retired more than 10 years ago. His widow and six children survive him, five of the six being present for the memorial service which was conducted by Rev. Willard B. Thorp of Palo Alto in the absence of Rev. J. H. Bennett, who was ill. Mr. Brett will be remembered by his parishioners and friends as a man of scholarly habits, noble character, and sincere devotion. He was a faithful servant of our churches.

LOUIS WHITAKER

A letter from Rev. and Mrs. Robert B. Whitaker, dated November, 1940, from Lintsing, China, to a large number of friends, gives more details concerning the death of their eldest son, Louis, which **Pacific** reported in the November issue. He died on September 9 at Chengtu, Szechwan in west China, of typhoid pneumonia. He was just 25 years of age. His burial took place before his parents knew of his death. With a friend and former schoolmate, he had been engaged in nine months of relief investigation and distribution in one of China's most needy sections. Following a battle, these young men led the Chinese people in cleaning up a village and in restoring livable conditions in the homes. About one third of the people had lost all their food supply, often the family cow having been shot by invaders for a single steak, the rest left to rot. Through the expenditure of several thousand dollars, a whole area was restored to something like normality. One Chinese university student remarked, "Mr. Whitaker must have loved China and the Chinese people more than we do ourselves. What is it that makes you young Americans do these things for us?" Thus has northern California given two splendid young lives to the Cause of Christ in China within a few months—Louis Whitaker and Dr. Leonard Wilbur.

CHRISTMAS FUND

Gifts to the Christmas Fund made possible a distribution of gifts to the aged ministers and widows of ministers, who are pensioners of the Relief Society and the Conference. The gifts this year were the same as in 1939, averaging about $45 for ministers and $34 for widows. The money that came in too late for Christmas will be used during the year to help in cases of illness and other emergencies. The **Pacific** wishes it might share with all contributors the beautiful letters of appreciation that have come from the recipients.

What About 1941?

It is impossible to give in the January issue of THE PACIFIC a church by church list of the contributions for benevolences, as is usually done, for the reason that the books are held open until January 10 and all receipts up to that time are counted as belonging to the month of December and the year 1940. There will be a church by church report in the February issue covering the full year of 1940, and there will also be a church by church report of the Thank Offering.

As THE PACIFIC goes to press it is impossible even to estimate whether or not 1940 will have brought an increase or a decrease over 1939 in the support of the program of our denomination. A number of churches have already made very notable gains; some others will need to work very hard the last few days before January 10.

As the annual meetings are being held, goals for the year 1941 are being adopted and in a very encouraging number the amounts are set at the figures suggested by the Conference committee.

EASTER MUSIC

One of our northern California churches has generously sent to the Conference office a box full of Easter cantata books to be given or loaned to church choirs making application for them. Contents include the following: 14 copies, "Victorious King" by Nolte, 24 "Our Living Lord" by Ira Wilson, 15 "The Song of Triumph" by Norman, 11 "Christ Triumphant" by Holton, 13 "Day of Triumph" by Gilbert. Any choir director or pastor who is interested may secure further information by writing the Conference office.

GREETINGS FROM C. L. MEARS

PACIFIC has received a letter from Rev. Charles L. Mears, well known in the Northern California Conference, who is now living in a comfortable cottage in Chula Vista. He finds that the church there is doing excellent service, and he has taken the Adult Bible Class. He writes that the change from active to retired relationship is severe, but his ability to be of some help has made the situation an inspiration. He rejoices in the fine work being done at Fairfax and sends greetings to all of his friends.

REV. W. W. RILEY

According to a clipping from a Eureka paper, Rev. W. W. Riley passed away at his home at Turlock some weeks ago. PACIFIC has been unsuccessful in securing any details. Mr. Riley will be remembered as our Congregational missionary in Trinity County something over ten years ago. He possessed a great sense of humor, and wrote and published poetry in the style of Robert Service. He has been living in retirement for a number of years.

YOSEMITE PARK CHURCH

Rev. Ralph Doescher, who has been pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Exeter, California, has become the executive secretary and pastor of the Yosemite Park Church, succeeding Rev. James Asa White. Congregationalists have long been interested in the Yosemite Park Church and contribute to its support, and wish Mr. Doescher great success in this important field.

PALO ALTO. Twelve were received into membership the first Sunday of the new year. The choir delighted the congregation with its Christmas music, and the church school presented "Why the Chimes Rang." The Women's Society has been sewing for British and Chinese relief. Rev. Augustine Jones is pastor.

ANTIOCH. Influenza has worked havoc with attendance and with the Every Member Canvass, but the year closed without a deficit. Mrs. Steininger, wife of the pastor, enlarged a picture of the Madonna on coardboard, filling in colors with cellophane to give the effect of a stained glass window when floodlighted from behind. Another Madonna in silhouette was also illuminated behind a glass door in the parish house. Many passersby paused to admire and to catch something of the Christmas spirit.

SACRAMENTO. One hundred fifty members of DeMolay attended church on Sunday, December 15. In spite of illness and holiday guests, the members of the church splendidly met the obligation of entertaining the Midwinter Pilgrim Fellowship. Four meals were served at the church and the young people received hospitality for lodging and breakfast in the homes. Rev. T. T. Phelps is pastor.

SOQUEL. A unanimous and enthusiastic call has been accepted by Rev. T. Davis Preston to the pastorate of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Preston are now living in the parsonage. A canvass for the support of the church was well received in the community, and the budget was underwrittten. Attendance at services is very encouraging.

CEDARVILLE. Two new members have been received on confession and one by letter, and three children have been baptized recently. Final steps in clearing the property have been taken. Rev. Virgil Vinyard is pastor.

OAKLAND, BETHANY ARMENIAN. Rev. M. G. Papazian reports that a free-will offering of $52.00 was sent for British Congregational children at Christmas time.

OAKLAND, FRUITVALE. The church increased its giving and reached its goal for benevolences. The annual dinner will be served free, but each family will pay twenty-five cents which goes for PACIFIC subscription. Rev. J. B. Orr is the pastor.

NILES. During the year nineteen new members were received into fellowship, ten on Whitsunday and nine on World Communion Sunday. Rev. R. C. Day is pastor.

SALIDA. Mr. Lewis Presnall, the pastor, is still confined to his bed, but is making improvement. The pulpit is being cared for by Mr. Ward L. Stephenson of Pacific School of Religion.

BERKEKLEY, PARK. The Christmas offering brings the benevolences for the year a bit above the goal. A Christmas dinner was served to the pupils of the Sunday School. Rev. Tom Watt is pastor.

ADIN. The church joined with the grade school in a Christmas program given in the church building and 150 people were present. Rev. A. W. Monosmith is the pastor.

WOODSIDE. Four new members were received into membership on Christmas Sunday, making 24 for the year. Rev. Burton M. Palmer is pastor.

PORT CHICAGO. A new choir, organized by Mrs. Sherwood Wirt, wife of the pastor, has brought an increase in attendance.

An attractive Christmas greeting and announcement of the program of activity has been received at the Conference office from Rev. Horton Colbert, now pastor of the First Universalist Church in Rochester, Minnesota.

PORTERVILLE. Twenty-seven new members were received at a pre-Christmas service of worship, December 15, making a total of fifty for the year and 239 during the present pastorate. More than 600 persons attended services on Christmas Sunday, and hundreds of gifts were received for welfare work, when "The Christmas Story" was presented in tableau, Scripture, and carols of all nations. Of the 260 who were present at the Christmas Sunday morning service 92 were men. A Christmas luncheon and bazaar enabled the Women's Association to pay in full the $300 installment due the Building Society next April. Rev. John H. Gregg is pastor.

STOCKTON. That the spirit of worship is being encouraged by the alterations recently completed is evidenced by the use of the word "sanctuary" instead of "auditorium" whenever people refer to the room where services are held. Young people attending open house will slip into the sanctuary for a quiet moment. The social rooms of the church are open week-end evenings, and while it requires time and strength, the program is proving worthwhile. On New Year's Day Rev. and Mrs. Noel Breed were surprised by a reception at their home, people coming from 3 to 6 to show their appreciation of what has been accomplished.

TULARE. Rev. A. L.Rice, pastor, reports that a school for the training of Army fliers has been located at Tulare, which will result in considerable growth in the population of the city. The church's Christmas centered in a candlelight service, for the sixth year, on December 22 before a large congregation of church and community people. The financial canvass shows gains for local support and benevolences, the latter being covered by pledges in hand sufficient to meet the increased goal suggested by the Conference.

SAN CARLOS. Every organization celebrated Christmas by making donations to worthy causes. Half a truck load of clothing, toys, and food was sent to the migrants, and $10 to war relief. The city hall was filled for the public service when Daniel Panel, noted actor now living in San Carlos, read Dickens' Christmas Carol. The foundations for one wing of the new building have been installed. The plans are being revised for the complete plant. Rev. H. J. Loken is pastor.

MARTINEZ. A very impressive candle-lighting vesper service was conducted on Christmas Sunday with 75 people participating, and a capacity congregation present, even in spite of the storm. The church has made final payment on its Building Society debt, and is preparing to celebrate the occasion. The current issue of the **Pilgrim Highroad** carries an extensive report of the recent Pilgrim Fellowship Rally held in this church. Rev. Verdette Walters is pastor.

OAKLAND, PILGRIM. The choir made the Christmas music a joy and inspiration. Eighteen members are in the young people's group, and two delegates were in attendance with the pastor, Rev. Harvey Miller, at the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference in Sacramento. The men of the church inaugurated the campaign for funds for remodeling by serving a waffle supper to over 100 people.

OAKLAND BETHANY. This church which has been under the care of Rev. M. G. Papazian for a number of months has extended a unanimous call to Rev. S. K. Sulahian of Providence, R. I. The church is anxiously and hopefully awaiting his reply.

SAN FRANCISCO, OCEAN VIEW. The Christmas program was well attended in spite of the rain. The young adults gave a play, "Peace I Give Unto You." Byron E. Eshelman is pastor.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

PITTSBURG. Instead of the Every Member Canvass, a loyalty dinner was planned, each table having a host and hostess. Names of subscribers to the 1940 budget were distributed to the hosts and each subscriber was invited to the dinner, which was given free by the Women's Auxiliary. Those who could not accept the invitation were visited by their hosts and hostesses. One hundred forty made reservations but on account of influenza 112 were present.

At the dinner there was community singing and addresses and the presentation of a twenty-page mimeographed "progress" report, showing in graphic form the trend of membership, Sunday School attendance and enrollment, church attendance, repairs and improvements, the various organizations, the giving to the support of the church and its benevolences, and describing the service rendered to the community. New pledges from 90 per cent of those giving the previous year were thus secured, and others are being reached by a follow-up canvass.

The Young Adult group has painted the foyer of the church. Rev. Elmer W. Benedict, pastor, had with him thirteen young people, the largest delegation, at the midwinter conference. Ten new subscribers have taken advantage of the offer of Advance.

CALAVERAS COUNTY. Schools were closed at Angels Camp part of the time because of influenza, and this affected the attendance at Sunday School and broke in on the Christmas plans. The pastor, Rev. John G. Dickey, and Mrs. Dickey were able to carry through and all programs were successful. Benches have been built by the Sunday school for little children in the social hall. The choir of the church was invited to sing at the Christmas party at Calaveras Big Trees, and also at the Eastern Star installation. At Murphys the Sunday School joined with the day school in the Christmas program. The Masonic Lodge attended Christmas services.

EUREKA. The panel discussions continue to create interest. On a recent Sunday evening, the relationship between church and press was discussed. The importance of the freedom of church and press was stressed. The responsibilities which newspapers have as the main source of public information was pointed out, and it was felt that both church and press could contribute to the spiritual aims of Christian democracy. A team representing the Preaching Mission, which included Rev. Jason Noble Pierce, visited Eureka, and Dr. Pierce's sermon was broadcast. According to the radio people, it was heard by more than 14,000 listeners. Rev. C. H. Hudson is pastor.

BERKELEY, NORTH. The church school held a Christmas party on the evening of December 15. Gifts of toys and food were brought for those less fortunate. Rev. Pierson Parker, pastor, who had been scheduled as a speaker for the young people's conference at Sacramento, was unable to attend by reason of illness, but continues to carry on the work of the church. The young people sang Christmas carols from midnight to three in the morning Christmas Day.

FAIRFAX. Rev. William W. Meyer, the pastor, has preached and visited at San Quentin Prison; and was leader at the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference in Sacramento, where he was accompanied by seven of his young people. Thirty-six people attended a Christmas Eve Midnight Candle-light Service, and on Christmas evening a pageant was presented with 30 persons participating, and a large audience present.

BERKELEY, FIRST. Since the beginning of the ministry of Rev. Vere V. Loper, 141 new members have been received. The Sunday evening Inter-church Hour continues its splendid ministry to the community. On Christmas Sunday, this hour was devoted to a presentation of carols and other music of many lands appropriate to the season. There were selections from Thuringia, Bulgaria, England, France, Gascony, Sweden, Poland, Ukraine, Serbia, and the Basque Province. In January the speakers will be Dr. Henry D. Appenzeller of Korea, Dr. Rufus Jones, author and teacher, Dr. Adolph Keller of Switzerland, and President A. C. McGiffert of the Pacific School of Religion. Dr. Loper's sermon subjects for the beginning of the new year are: "Is My Self-Sacrifice a Virtue?" "Have I Explored Myself?" "Am I Captain of My Soul?" "Do I Respect Myself?" "Am I Developing Myself?" Dr. Robert G. Aitken, noted astronomer and member of the church, is giving a series of talks to high school young people.

ALAMEDA. Rev. Gail Cleland, for nearly twelve years pastor of this church and a reserve officer in the U. S. Army, has been called to serve as chaplain and has reported at Camp McArthur, San Pedro. Dr. Cleland has been given a one-year leave of absence by his church and ad interim arrangements are being explored by the committee. His leaving made necessary his resignation as head of the Alameda Red Cross, as well as his chairmanship of the Draft Board. It goes without saying that the church and the city, as well as our Northern California fellowship, will miss his presence and his service, but he will be peculiarly effective in his work with the young men under training in the Army.

REDWOOD CITY. The church has officially sponsored Boy Scout Troop No. 120. The Fireside group and the Pilgrim Fellowship joined forces and went caroling on Christmas eve. The Plymouth Guild does sewing for the Red Cross and took gifts to the Relief Home, and the Sunday School sent help to migrant children. Mrs. H. J. Loken of San Carlos gave an O. Henry reading at the women's guild meeting. Beautiful music featured the Christmas services, with an augmented choir and with selections from an operetta by Otis Carrington of Redwood City. Rev. C. E. Ward is pastor.

FRESNO, PILGRIM ARMENIAN. After long and earnest search, this church has called to the pastorate the Rev. Hagop A. Chakmakjian, pastor of the Cilician Armenian Congregational Church of Boston, for a period of five years. He will begin his service about the 15th of July. His family is now en route on a steamer of the Java Line, coming all the way from the Near East by way of the Orient, and will land on the Coast probably sometime in February. During the interim the work of the Pilgrim Church is being carried by Rev. Haig Adadourion of Malden, Mass.

SANTA CRUZ. Six new members were received into church fellowship in December. A choir of fifty-two voices gave the Christmas cantata "Glorious Morn" at the vesper service on Sunday, the 15th. Rev. Willis Goldsmith of Mission Hills Congregational Church, San Diego, and Rev. H. S. Mahood exchanged pulpits the last Sunday in December.

BENICIA. Rev. and Mrs. Isaac Fleming were welcomed at a fellowship dinner attended by 75 people. A beautiful cake, bearing the inscription of "Welcome," was an attractive center piece. The young people had a Christmas party with some Pittsburg young people as guests.

BERKELEY, CHINESE. The program of the annual Christmas exercises was in two parts, the first was devotional with Superintendent Gill delivering the message, ably supported by the choir. The second was in the nature of an entertainment culminating in the arrival of Santa Claus, the giving of gifts, and refreshments. This was the initial use of the beautiful new backdrop and curtains for the pulpit and stage. They make possible a worshipful atmosphere for church services and also serve as curtains for plays and entertainments. The funds for these luxurious curtains were provided through the efforts of the Wah Mei Club, a group of Chinese and American women who cooperate closely with the church. The outlook for the new year is bright. Dr. B. C. Wong is pastor.

COTATI and PENNGROVE. More than 20 young people attend Sunday evening Pilgrim Fellowship meetings regularly. These young people took their turn going to the county hospital to sing and lead in Scripture reading and prayer. Christmas carols were sung beginning at four o'clock Christmas morning. A watch night party was held at the hall at Cotati with games and refreshments, but the last half hour was given to a worship service. Rev. James D. Salmon, the pastor, has spoken at Santa Rosa and at the women's societies in both Penngrove and Cotati about the work in Trinity County. A membership campaign at the Penngrove Church is being launched.

TRINITY COUNTY. A thorough canvass for the support of the church is being made in Weaverville, following the drawing up of the budget. The Sunday School will contribute to the church, and the school will be supported out of the church treasury. A substantial sum was sent as a result of Christmas offerings in answer to the special appeal for Congregational children in Great Britain. A new communion service has been purchased. A home-coming and roll call dinner will be held in connection with the annual meeting. Rev. P. N. Bennett is pastor.

SAN MATEO. Rev. E. A. Lowther of San Francisco was speaker at the church dinner on December 12. The most complete financial convass which has taken place in several years resulted in increases both for home expenses and benevolences. The goal suggested by the Conference has been covered. The Cherub (kindergarten) and Children's choirs have new white surplices. These choirs show the result of splendid training. New flood light has been installed at the corner of the church, which adds to the attractiveness of the building and the safety of passers by. Rev. Sidney H. Buckham is pastor.

LODI. The annual loyalty dinner for getting pledges for the budget of the new year was highly successful. The choirs of the Congregational and Methodist churches gave a joint program of Christmas carols on December 15. The Mecoyas (Methodist - Congregational Young Adults) presented "The Lost Star," by Dorothy Clarke Wilson, to a large and reverent audience. Rev. A. R. Boone, pastor, was the director.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALVARY. Rev. H. K. Khachadourian is recovering from his injury and is getting about with the help of a cane. During December the pulpit was occupied by several different speakers, and at the annual meeting on December 29 reports were given and officers elected. Rev. M. G. Papazian was the main speaker.

SAN FRANCISCO, CITY TEMPLE. Carologues for Christmas, based upon carols and Christmas songs of the nations, were presented on four Sunday evenings in December under the direction of Dr. William E. Knuth. Christmas music also featured the morning services. There was noonday Christmas carol singing every weekday for two weeks.

At the church office an employment bureau has been opened where those desiring help and those seeking employment may register. The complete program for every Thursday night in 1941 has been outlined by the lay men and women who carried forward this particular part of the church program. Speakers and subjects have been secured and published. The co-pastors are Rev. E. A. Lowther and Rev. Jason Noble Pierce.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH. The choir is the first group within Plymouth to reach the goal set for the 50th year of the church,—a total of 50 voices. A large congregation heard a new and original Christmas cantata from 11 to 12 midnight on Christmas eve, based on Henry Van Dyke's story of "The Other Wise Man." The adaptation of the story was made by Arthur Arlett, and the music was composed by the members and director of the choir. Much of it was on a very high artistic level. Ten new members were received on Christmas Sunday. The January meeting of the Women's League was a Twelfth Night Festival, the speaker being Professor Edward Z. Rowell, who chose as his subject, "Human Festivals." Rev. Robert W. Inglis is pastor.

SARATOGA. The lovely tower of the church was floodlighted with red and green Christmas colors, and there was nightly broadcasting of chimes from specially recorded discs five days before Christmas. In spite of the storm more than 100 attended the beautiful pageant, "The adoration of the kings and shepherds." Six young people with the pastor, Rev. Fred R. Morrow, attended the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference at Sacramento.

AUBURN. Fine cooperation was shown by friends and members in an every member canvass under the direction of Field Secretary Sherman. Pledges amounting to $400 more than a year ago are in hand. Reports from the church indicate that the Sunday School has an excellent teaching staff and that the Ladies' Guild has an effective program. Rev. Stewart E. Locke is pastor.

BERKELEY, KENSINGTON. The High School group put on a "white elephant" auction sale and took in $35.00 toward a radio-phonograph for the house. Mr. Herb Dimock is director.

HOTEL SAN FRANCISCO Stewart
Downtown on Geary Street, above Union Square
Rates with bath, $2.50, $3.00 and $3.50 one person; $3.50, $4.00 and $4.50 two persons — without bath, $2.00 one person; $3.00 two persons
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PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Edited by Miss Helen M. Perkins

ANNUAL MEETING PLANS

The Annual Meeting of the Federation will be held on the 16th and 17th of January at the North Congregational Church in Berkeley. While the program is not yet fully arranged, the Committee, with Mrs. William Davis at its head, has been working hard and the following is a tentative partial outline:

Thursday, January 16: Opening session, 2:00 p. m.
Principal speaker: Major May Wilmer, Superintendent of the Salvation Army Home for Women, in Oakland.
Hour of Worship, led by Rev. Jason Noble Pierce of San Francisco.
Dinner, 6:30. Sixty-five cents. Speaker not announced.
Friday, January 17: Session opens at 10:00 a. m. with election of officers and other business.
Two discussion groups:
"The Christian Use of Life and Ability," led by Rev. Augustine Jones of Palo Alto.
"Young People in our Churches," leader not announced.
Luncheon, 12:30. Forty cents. Mrs. Pierson Parker, of the hostess church, presiding.
Afternoon session, 2:00 p. m.
Principal speaker: Mme. Winifred Lucia Fisher, of Sacramento, a musician of note, will discuss Church Music.

All reservations, either for over-night hospitality, or for dinner and lunch, must be made by noon of Tuesday, the 14th. Make reservations with Mrs. Henry Fowden, 1437 Bonita Avenue, Berkeley. Tel. BErkeley 1769. Full programs will be sent out later to the Commissioners for distribution.

SUCH IS LIFE

Christmas has been just one thing after another for our President, Mrs. Raymond Fuller. First she was in the throes of moving. Then family guests arrived and immediatly came down with influenza. As they recovered, Mr. Fuller contracted the same disease. Asked how she was herself, Mrs. Fuller replied that she was too busy to do anything but cough. The new address is 266 Arch Street, San Francisco.

READING LISTS

Mr. Robert d'Erlach reports that she has had replies from only five (5) of the churches regarding the reading lists. As these were received with great enthusiasm, it seems likely that a number of the churches are in the same situation as one whose Commissioner reported that they had done so little she was ashamed to send in the list. Mrs. d'Erlach urges us not to take that attitude but to send in the results for this year, and then see how it will grow next year. So far, Oakland First is far in the lead—over only five, however—but there is still time for some of the others to overtake her. In any case, please send reports in to Mrs. d'Erlach before the Annual Meeting.

CONSTITUTION

Copies of the new constitution are being mailed to the Commissioners. The Constitution Committee reminds us that the vote on the adoption of this constitution for one year, on recommendation of the Executive Board, comes up at the Annual Meeting. This year will be a "try-out" and the Committee hopes for any suggestion or advice on the part of members of the Federation at the end of the period. The object of sending out the copies of the constitution now is that the two voting members to which each society is entitled shall go over it very thoroughly and know exactly what they are voting for. Will the Commissioner in each church urge the early appointment of the voting members and get them together for study of the constitution?

THE LORBEERS

Those of us who were at the fall meeting in the Broadmoor Church in October, will remember the delight of hearing and meeting Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lorbeer, just before they sailed for India. Mrs. J. H. McCartney, of the hostess church, received a card from the Lorbeers not long ago, written while they were on their way between Japan and Hong Kong. Mr. Lorbeer says: "We found the Japanese courteous, clean and sturdy. No idlers. No enthusiasm for war. Many missionaries leaving due to relentless pressure by the government, on Christians, to forego foreign help."

WORD FROM TURKEY

Mrs. Dennis Goodsell, our Third Vice-President, has had several most interesting letters from Dr. Charles Riggs of the Bible House at Stamboul. He reports the safe arrival of Dr. Lorrin Shepard in Stamboul, after a trip of a month and a half from New York, in which he sampled boat, train, and aeroplane, as means of transportation. Many of us will remember the address that Mr. Paul Wilson of Talas gave some time ago at one of our Federation meetings. The Nilsons have four children, three girls and a boy, who are now in Stamboul attending the English High School. Miss Edith Parsons, whom many of us know personally, had been in Stamboul during her summer vacation, but had returned to Smyrna, where her school for girls opened in October. We were not the only country to have an International Fair, this past year. Smyrna had one, too, and in three weeks' time it was visited by 516,855 persons. It was very warmly praised by the many foreigners who attended it.

SACRAMENTO

The Sacramento church sends in two interesting items: The Book and Drama group of the Women's League sent 180 lbs. of excellent books to Cotton Valley at Fort Davis, Alabama, and Tillotson College in Texas. Among the books to Cotton Valley was a complete set of the International Encyclopedia, for which they were especially grateful. Visiting librarians, present when the books arrived, helped catalogue them. The Mayflower Group of Sacramento put on their annual candle-lighting service shortly before Christmas. It is a beautiful occasion and always brings its message to a large number of people, both church members and outsiders.

OFF FOR EVANSTON

Immediately after our annual meeting, Mrs. Fuller leaves for Evanston, Illinois, where the Federation State Presidents of all the states in the country gather for discussion and consultation, from noon of January 26 to 4 p. m. of the following day. It is a great meeting and a great inspiration.

ITEMS WANTED

Again may the Federation editor say that she is very glad for any items of special interest from any of the societies.

Among those returning from the Orient recently have been: Mrs. L. L. Gilbert and four children, Mrs. A. Hausske and daughter, Mrs. J. A. Hunter and two children, Miss Carolyn Sewall, Miss Clara Loomis, Mrs. F. L. Roberts, Mrs. C. S. Gillett and two children, and Mrs. W. P. Woodard and three daughters.

"Nothing Else Like It"

"The Christian Church is not a political instrument to pit its strength agains secular powers bent on conquest or retaliation with the only weapons secular migh recognizes. In God's intention, it never will be. The forces it sets loose and th channels of their operation are too subtle to register in the calculus of empire; thei alchemy works too slowly and too silently to halt dictators or assure immediate triumpl of right.

"Are they, then, of no consequence? What is most needed for the realizatio of that fairer society of nations for which, even in this hour of holocaust, men stil yearn? Surely two things preeminently: the raising up into leadership in the nation of men and women deeply committed to the achievement of world peace even at th price of national sacrifice, and the creation of a structure of international life t express and conserve the community of nations. The first of these the Christia Church is doing day in and day out; indeed it is the only agency raising up world minded leadership throughout the world. The second seems almost beyond th possibility of hope now, certainly beyond the possibility of action. Yet, even now as an earnest of its possibility and foretaste of its reality, there stands one worl community drawn out of all the nations."

"It would be an exaggeration to say that the only rays of light piercing th gloom of our world's present outlook come from the Christian Movement. It woul be an exaggeration of the truth. There is no other force 'spread widely through ou contemporary world and disseminating through the whole body of humanity in fluences for the righting of its wrongs, the healing of its deepest maladies, the bridgin of its divisions, possibly even the halting of its fatalistic descent toward conflict an chaos.' There is no other agency reaching out toward every corner of the earth toward every people and every aspect of human life—for health and enlightenment for reconciliation and redemption. There is no other institution or movement which still holds together the shattered fragments of humanity, as an earnest to all men o what God intended the life of mankind to be and what some day the family o nations may become."

"The world-wide Movement of the Christian Church! There is nothing else like it in all the world. There has been nothing like it in the whole of human history. The truth is there is nothing which can so much as be compared with it With all its divisions, its inadequacies, its apostasies, it is today the greatest powe for the uplifting of the life of humanity in its every aspect and for the bulding of a fairer world which this planet has even seen."

The above quotations from Henry P. Van Dusen's book, "For the Healing of the Nations," reveal the conviction at which the author arrived after an eight-months' journey around the world, seeing the missionary enterprise at first-hand and attending the Madras Conference.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN BY ONE WHO IS CONCERNED

We are the Board of Absentees;
We attend our church about as we please;
We judge it will run of itself, you know,
And, Sundays, we're just too tired to go!

We are the Board of Absentees;
At business meetings our chance we seize
To tell exactly how things should be run,
But we lift not a finger to get them done.

We are the Board of Absentees;
We like our golf in the morning breeze;
Of course, the budget should all be paid,
"But privately, now, I'm in the red."

We are the Board of Absentees;
Men and women of all degrees;
"Shall we give up the church O never, never!"
"Shall we go today?" Well, scarcely ever!

We look for a world far better than this,
A world of peace and of moderate bliss,
A day of right through the Seven Seas—
Just now we're the Board of Absentees!

—Dr. George L. Parker.
—From *Ohio News*.

RECOMMENDED

The following books are recommended as reading for Adult Education by the Conference Committee on Religious Education:

1. A Guide to Understanding the Bible, by Harry Emerson Fosdick.
2. The Social Gospel Re-examined, by F. Ernest Johnson.
3. Springs of Creative Living, by Rollo May.
4. Christianity: An inquiry into its nature and truth, by Harris Franklin Rall.

FROM ENGLAND

Rev. Benjamin Gould of Oroville has received a letter from his brother who lives about 20 miles from an airplane factory in England, which is frequently bombed by the German air raiders. A bomb landed nearby his home, bursting a door off its hinges and leaving only two panes of glass in the windows of the house. All the ceiling came down, causing a total damage of about three hundred pounds. The letter closes with the words, "There goes the siren—cannot stop to write more."

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CHAPEL OF THE CHIMES

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